Wisconsin Emergency Operations Center

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Flooding Response Update

Gov. Scott Walker joined Maj. Gen. Don Dunbar, Wisconsin's adjutant general, and Wisconsin Emergency Management Administrator Brian Satula in Burlington, Wisconsin to meet with local officials and view flood damage. Walker stressed that the safety of residents is the main concern right now. Earlier today, the governor declared a state of emergency in Kenosha, Racine, and Walworth counties in response to flooding triggered by heavy rains of up to 8 inches on July 11–12, 2017. The Fox River crested today in Burlington, in Racine County, at 16.1 feet, exceeding the previous high level set in 2008. It is also forecast to crest this afternoon in New Munster in Kenosha County at approximately 17.5 feet — another record. Wisconsin Emergency Management is coordinating response efforts to help those counties.

Here is a summary of the significant damage and assistance efforts:

Kenosha County:

County officials declared a state of emergency on Wednesday. All Kenosha County residents or businesses that have sustained damage should report that damage to the Kenosha County Emergency Management Flood Hotline at 262-605-7924, and leave a message detailing the damage sustained. Damage may also be reported by email at disaster@kenoshacounty.org.

Several roads remained closed due to flooding including Wisconsin Highway 50 at the Fox River near the town of New Munster. It is suggested that motorists follow alternate routes along WIS 83, WIS 11 and WIS 75 to get around the closure.

Racine County:

County officials declared a state of emergency on Wednesday, along with the city and town of Burlington.

Burlington: We Energies is bringing in temporary transformers to restore power. Department of Natural Resources (DNR) dam safety engineers are monitoring the dam at Echo Lake. The Burlington Wastewater Treatment facility is now operating on generator power. DNR wastewater teams are providing assistance to the operator.

About 100 Wisconsin National Guard members remain in the area to assist local officials with traffic control, health and welfare checks, and sandbagging. Department of Corrections has strike teams of inmates from the Robert Ellsworth Correctional Facility assisting with sandbagging until 9 p.m. Sandbags are being filled and distributed to the community. Two pick-up points are: Walgreens, 680 Milwaukee Ave.; and Karcher Middle School, 225 Robert Street. Utility crews continue to restore electric power.

Swift Water Rescue teams from Ozaukee, Lafayette, and Rock counties, as well as the city of Milwaukee, are on scene to assist in response. The Rock County Task Force, a team comprised of firefighters and

other first responders, are assisting local law enforcement this evening. Rock County is also providing two light towers for any needs that may arise tonight. Several streets and bridges remain closed to regular traffic including County Highway KR between the east and west frontage roads under I-41/I-94.

Walworth County:

County officials declared a state of emergency on Wednesday. Wisconsin Highway 120 is closed from County D to Wisconsin Highway 120.

The State Emergency Operations Center has been elevated to Level 3 with Wisconsin Emergency Management and staff members from other state agencies ready to answer resource requests.

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